

Message Text

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ACTION HEW-06

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UNCLAS STOCKHOLM 1826

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EIND, SWEL, TBIO, SW
SUBJECT: INTERNATIONAL FOOD LABELING SURVEY

REF: STATE 89779

1. THE SWEDISH NATIONAL FOOD ADMINISTRATION (SLV) PROVIDED THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IN RESPONSE TO THE FOUR REQUIREMENTS IN PARAGRAPH IN REFTEL: (A) EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 1979, THE AMOUNT OF CARBOHYDRATES AND ADDITIONAL TYPES OF SUGAR MUST BE DECLARED ON PACKAGES FOR CHILDREN'S FOOD (ORDINANCE TO BE PUBLISHED LATER THIS YEAR). FURTHERMORE, THE CONTENT OF LACTOSE IN MOTHER'S MILK SUBSTITUTES AND CEREAL FOR INFANTS MUST BE DECLARED. TYPES OF SUGAR ADDED TO JUICE MUST BE DECLARED IF THE CONTENT EXCEEDS 1.5 G/100G (SLV ORDINANCE 1972:37). SORBITOL MUST BE DECLARED IN G/100 G IF THE CONTENT EXCEEDS 15 PERCENT (EXCEPTION: THROAT LOZENGES). FURTHERMORE, THE PACKAGE MUST CONTAIN THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION: "THIS PRODUCT CONTAINS SORBITOL (X G/100 G) WHICH MAY ACT AS A LAXATIVE" (SLV 1977:6). THE COMPULSORY DECLARATION OF SUGAR IN BREAKFAST CEREALS AND DEHYDRATED BEVERAGES IS BEING PLANNED. ALL AMOUNTS MUST BE STATED IN G/100 G. (B) ALL INGREDIENTS IN COMBINED FOODSTUFF MUST BE DECLARED BY LISTING IN A DECREASING ORDER BY WEIGHT. LIQUID, GRAVY, JELLY AND SIMILAR INGREDIENTS MAY BE DECLARED IN SEPARATE GROUPS (SLV 1972:19). (C) FOOD

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MAY NOT BE SOLD WITH A LABEL WITHOUT PERMISSION FROM THE SLV, THAT IT IS PARTICULARLY SUITABLE FOR PEOPLE IN NEED OF SPECIAL DIET BECAUSE OF AGE, ILLNESS OR OTHER CONDITIONS. THE PERMIT MAY BE LIMITED (SLV 1975:1). FOOD SOLD TO DIABETICS, FOR EXAMPLE, MUST HAVE LABELS STATING TOTAL CARBOHYDRATE AND SUGAR CONTENT. (D) NUTRITIONAL LABELING (PROTEIN, FATS, CARBOHYDRATES, ENERGY) IS NOT

IMPOSED BY LAW. HOWEVER, FAT CONTENT MUST BE GIVEN FOR ICE CREAM, CHEESE, BUTTER, MARGARINE, MILK, ETC. FURTHER-MORE, BUTTER, MARGARINE, OTHER FATS AND OILS MUST HAVE A LABEL SHOWING AVERAGE CONTENT OF SATURATED FATTY ACIDS IN PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL AMOUNT OF FATTY ACIDS AND THE AVERAGE CONTENT OF POLYUNSATURATED FATTY ACID IN PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL AMOUNT OF FATTY ACIDS (SLV 1972:18). NUTRITIONAL DECLARATION IS COMPULSORY FOR ALL SPECIAL PURPOSE FOODS, INCLUDING CHILDREN'S FOOD.

2. ONE COPY EACH OF ENGLISH TRANSLATIONS OF SWEDISH FOOD REGULATIONS (GENERAL REGULATIONS, AND GENERAL IMPLEMENTING ORDINANCE TO THE FOOD ACT AND THE FOOD DECREE) HAS BEEN AIR POUCHED TO J.J. ZAIC, FDA.
KENNEDY-MINOTT

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